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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Chong-Jin Oon et al.
Serial No.: CPA of 09/362,394 Examiner: D. Wortman
Filed : July 28, 1999 Group Art Unit: 1648
For : DETECTION OF HUMAN HEPATITIS B VIRUS SURFACE
ANTIGEN MUTANTS BY SPECIFIC AMPLIFICATION AND ITS
APPLICATION ON GENE CHIP

#25
EX/Komis
9.29.03

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
September 12, 2003

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

PETITION FOR A THREE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

This Petition is submitted in connection with the Final Office Action issued March 13, 2003 by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the March 13, 2003 Final Office Action was due June 13, 2003. Accordingly, applicants hereby petition for a three month extension of time in which to respond. The fee for a three month extension of time is NINE HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS (\$930.00) and a check for this amount is enclosed. With a three month extension of time, a response to the March 13, 2003 Final Office Action is now due September 13, 2003. Accordingly, this Petition is being timely filed.

Applicants are concurrently filing a Notice of Appeal in connection with the above-identified application.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned

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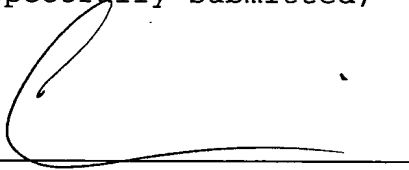
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attorneys invite the Examiner to telephone them at the number provided below.

No fee, other than the enclosed \$930.00 for a three month extension of time, is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Petition. However, if an additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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